The facilities to repatriate from Kuwait which include free train ticket to home town, cash of Rs. 100/- per head during journey to home town and transfer of residence facilities at the customs. Kendriya Vidyalayas and other institutions are being advised to give special consideration in regard to admission.

**Closng the R.M.S. offices in Andhra Pradesh**

3301. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some of the R.M.S. offices are proposed to be closed in Andhra Pradesh, if so, what are the details thereof and what steps have been taken to avoid delay in delivery of letters due to this closure of R.M.S. offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): No proposal for closure of any R M S. office in Andhra Pradesh has been received in the office of DG Department of Posts.

**Collapse of a school building of Port Trust Authority at Visakhapatnam**

3302. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on August 13, school children died recently due to collapse of a school building of Port Trust Authority at Visakhapatnam; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the steps taken to punish the concerned officials that are complacent in updating and strengthening school building;

(c) when was that building constructed and whether the building was good enough for human habitation; if so, the reasons for its collapse;

(d) if the building was not fit for habitation; the reasons for allowing the school to continue in that building;

(e) the amount spent for maintenance and repair of the building for the last three years; and

(f) whether Government have appointed any enquiry committee to go deep into the matter; if so, what are the terms of reference?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Port High School varandah in the Port housing colony, Salagramapuram VISAKHAPATNAM collapsed on 14-8-90 during heavy rains. Thirteen children died and 36 children were injured and hospitalised.

(b) One Assistant Executive Engineer, one Inspector of Works and one Overseer of the Port Trust, incharge of maintenance of the building were suspended pending further investigation into the matter.

(c) and (d) Ground and first floor of the building was built during 1981-82 and second floor building was built during 1983-84. The building was good enough for human habitation. However, during heavy rains the varandahs of all the three floors and school building suddenly collapsed.

(e) The amount spent for maintenance and repairs of the building in past years is given below:—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1984-85 | —Rs. | 16,638/- |
| 1986-87 | —Rs. | 40,571/- |
| 1988-89 | —Rs. | 1,760/- |
| Total : | Rs. | 58,969/- |

(f) Yes, Sir. The Committee will look into the causes of collapse, fix responsibility if any and suggest measures to avoid recurrence.

**Proposal to start "Speed Post" service Facility at Tirupati and Guntur**

3303. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to

start "Speed Post" service facility at Tirupati and Guntur; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and at what stage of implementation are these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b) The speed post facility is already available at Tirupati. The proposal to open a speed post service at Guntur is found not feasible due to non-availability of suitable air transport connection.

**Advisory Committee for Doordarshan Kendra Hyderabad**

3304. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Advisory Committee for Doordarshan Kendra, Hyderabad; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; if not whether there is any proposal to constitute the same and what are the guidelines in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) The Programme Advisory Committee for Doordarshan Kendra, Hyderabad, has not yet been reconstituted.

As per the guidelines, Programme Advisory Committees are constituted for Programme Producing Doordarshan Kendras. The term of the Advisory Committee is for two years. The number of non-official members is restricted to 15. They should be from within the coverage zone of the Kendra and should represent various disciplines such as 'dance', 'folk art and culture', 'women's and children's welfare', 'youth welfare', 'social welfare', 'science', 'humor', 'film|theatre', 'sports', 'literature', 'scheduled caste|tribe', 'linguistic minorities' etc. Besides, there are some ex-officio members and the Director of the concerned Kendra is the Chairman.

**Upgradation of National Highways in Gujarat**

3305. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Transport Policy Committee has recommended the upgradation of several Naional Highways in Gujarat;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government of Gujarat has also urged the Central Government for the development, constructions and improvement of National Highways in Gujarat; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard and the steps Government have taken or contemplating to take for the implementation of the recommendations of National Transport Committee and the request of State Government of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A Statement indicating the roads recommended by the National Transport Policy Committee and those sponsored by the State Government of Gujarat for inclusion in the National Highway grid is enclosed (*See* below) However, one of the roads, i.e. the Beawar-Sirohi-Radhanpur (to Kandla) Road having a length of 450 km. has been already included in the National Highway network in February, 1989. Further additions to the National Highway grid would depend on the outlay for this purpose in the 8th Five Year Plan which is yet to be finalised.

As regards the construction and improvement of existing National Highways is concerned, it is a continuous process and improvement works are being taken up every year in Annual Plan depending upon the *inter-see* priority of projects, availability of funds for the purpose etc.